

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**UNIVERSITY DEMOCRATS CHARTER STATEWIDE ORGANIZATION, ELECT  
FIRST EXECUTIVE TEAM**

(GRAND FORKS, ND – MAY 17) – Students at the University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, Dickinson State University, and the University of Mary have chartered University Democrats of North Dakota (UDND). The newly formed UDND statewide partnership is affiliated with the North Dakota Democratic-NPL and the College Democrats of America. UDND's charter has been approved by the College Democrats of America, allowing us access to a national network of resources and connections. UDND will provide students with the tools necessary to lead Democrats to victory in North Dakota.

Students at North Dakota's universities have recognized the reckless behavior of the Republican supermajority in Bismarck and the need for restored balance in our state government. Ignorance of pressing problems like unaffordable housing costs and skyrocketing tuition combined with voter suppression efforts have shown the Republicans' complete lack of concern for young North Dakotans. UDND members will work diligently through this election season to activate and mobilize young voters on campus. By developing future party leaders, engaging students in government, and shaping the conversation on key student issues, UDND will assist the Democratic-NPL in its quest for victory in 2014.

UDND members have elected an energetic and motivated team to lead them through the election season. President Collin Hanson will lead executive team members Robert Kringler, Vice President; Matthew Perdue, Programs Director; and Jed Hanson, Communications Director.

**ABOUT COLLIN HANSON.** Collin Hanson studies political science and nonprofit leadership at the University of North Dakota. He has devoted much of his college career to representing all students on the NDUS Student Affairs Council and students at UND as a member of the Student Organization Funding Agency. He is the newly elected President of the UND Ten Percent Society and is involved with several organizations, including the Nonprofit Leadership Student Association and the North Dakota Student Association. Collin is from Sheyenne, ND.

**ABOUT ROBERT KRINGLER.** Robert Kringler studies history, music, and entrepreneurship at North Dakota State University. He recently finished serving as the Executive Commissioner of Governmental Relations with NDSU Student Government, where he lobbied on behalf of NDSU students. He has worked with TEDxFargo and

TEDxNDSU. He is a proud fifth generation North Dakotan and is passionate about progressive ideas. Robert is from Fargo, ND.

**ABOUT MATTHEW PERDUE.** Matthew Perdue studies composite social science education, political science, and leadership at Dickinson State University. He was raised on the family farm. He is the Student Assistant Director of the Theodore Roosevelt Honors Leadership Program, President of the DSU League of Political Scientists, a DSU football player, and a North Dakota Farmers Union member. Matthew is from Ray, ND.

**ABOUT JED HANSON.** Jed Hanson studies political science and public administration at the University of North Dakota. He currently serves as secretary of UND University Democrats. He is interning as Communications Coordinator on the Kyle Thorson for North Dakota House campaign. He has also worked on communication projects with Fill The Dome and Organizing for Action. Jed is from Argusville, ND.

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